

BC3 announces topics of spring 2020 Lunch & Learn professional skills workshops

Nov. 15, 2019

(Butler, PA) Up to five generations could be represented in today's workplace, each with different worldviews, comfort levels with technology and expectations for communication that can affect an organization's productivity and its interpersonal relations, according to Dr. Nick Neupauer, president of Butler County Community College.

From the Silent Generation to Generation Z, each has its own influences and characteristics, said Neupauer, who will discuss "Understanding Generational Differences in the Workplace" in the first of BC3's spring 2020 Lunch & Learn Series presentations Feb. 5.

Neupauer, who holds a doctorate in education in communication and instruction from West Virginia University, will offer tips on communicating across generations to those who attend the Lunch & Learn presentation, scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

BC3's four spring Lunch & Learn professional skills workshops will be held in the NexTier Bank building, 101 E. Diamond St., Butler, and catered by the Chop Shop, said Kathy Strobel, BC3's coordinator of business training.

The median age of an employee in the U.S. labor force was 41.9 years in 2018, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Roughly 9 percent of those age 75 and older were employed in the U.S. civilian labor force in 2018, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and 55.2 percent of those ages 16 to 24.

Those ages 74 or older are known as the Silent Generation; those 55 to 73, baby boomers; those 39 to 54, Generation X; those 23-38, Millennials; and those 22 and younger, Generation Z.

Generational characteristics range from those who prefer face-to-face communication and expect little feedback to those who are comfortable with online meetings or digital communication and seek instant feedback, Neupauer said.

Other spring Lunch & Learn Series presentations are "Building a Strong Social Brand" on March 4; "Shirtless Leadership: The Bare Truth about Building Teams through Delegation and Momentum" on April 7; and "Professional Communication: Bring Your Best to Work" on May 19.

Tricia Pritchard, a BC3 faculty member, will teach simple and effective strategies to understand audiences and to create consistent messaging in "Building a Strong Social Brand."

Dr. Christian Ola, an associate professor of business and economics at California University of Pennsylvania and BC3's former dean of business, will help those who attend "Shirtless Leadership" how to identify their personal mission, harness their passion, lead through delegation and build momentum within an organization.

Pritchard will discuss effective communication techniques that will improve relationships and productivity in the workplace in "Professional Communication."

The Lunch & Learn Series, presented by BC3's Workforce Development division in partnership with the Butler County Chamber of Commerce, represents the implementation of an objective in the college's 2017-2022 strategic plan in that it is intended to build relationships to advance economic development and quality of life in the community, BC3 Workforce Development administrators said.

The workshops in downtown Butler also represent the first open programming in the city by BC3's Workforce Development division.

Registration is required, and seating is limited for the program, which costs \$15 per person. Those who register for all four sessions at once will receive a discounted rate of \$50.

Those interested in registering for the Lunch & Learn Series presentations can visit bc3.edu/lunch-learn or call 724-287-8711, Ext. 8476, for corporate billing.